

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph **[0021]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] Referring now to Figs. 3-5, the tool 10 and a tool **[[10□]] 10'** are shown adjacent a first panel 50 and a second panel 52. The tool **[[10□]] 10'** is identical to and includes the same elements as the tool 10. The body panels 50 and 52 define a gap 51 between an edge 50a of the first body panel 50 and an edge 52a of the second body panel 52. Preferably, the first panel 50 and the second panel 52 are exterior automotive body panels. Alternatively, the panels 50 and 52 are any type of panels that require a gap, such as the gap 51, therebetween. The first panel 50 and the second panel 52 are adapted to be attached to a respective mounting location, indicated generally at 54 and 56, such as a vehicle body frame or the like. The tools 10 and **[[10□]] 10'** are attached by an elongated connector member 58 to form a tool assembly 11. A handle 59 extends outwardly from the connector member 58 intermediate the tools 10 and **[[10□]] 10'** for easier manipulation of the assembly 11 by an operator (not shown). An eyebolt 57, best seen in Fig. 3 extends from an upper portion of the connector member 58 for suspending the assembly 11 therefrom to further provide for easier manipulation for the operator to move the assembly 11 within an assembly plant, for example. Alternatively, a bracket 55 having the eyebolt 57 extending upwardly therefrom, best seen in Fig. 4, extends from the upper portion of the connector member 58.

Please replace paragraph **[0022]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] A controller or control panel 60 is mounted on the connector member 58 and controls the operation of the tools 10 and **[[10□]] 10'**, in particular the operation of the vacuum cups 16 and 18 and the actuator 20. The control panel 60 includes control buttons 62 thereon for selectively actuating the actuators 20 and the vacuum cups 16 and 18. Preferably, the actuators 20 are controlled by selectively connecting and disconnecting a valve or valves 64 from an air source 66 (best seen in Fig. 5) to the supply lines 42 and 44, which alternately supplies and exhausts compressed air to the

opposing sides of the power piston to move the first body portion 12 and the second body portion 14 relative to one another along the axis 19. Preferably, the vacuum cups 16 and 18 are controlled by selectively connecting and disconnecting a valve or valves 68 from a vacuum source 70 (best seen in Fig. 5) to the vacuum lines 46 and 48. Preferably, the vacuum source 70 is controlled by the air source 66, such as by powering compressed-air powered vacuum pumps or the like.

Please replace paragraph **[0023]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0023] The pin 32 is preferably constructed of a turned nylon material or a similar material that is soft enough to not damage the edges of the body panels 50 and 52 when placed in the gap 51, discussed in more detail below. A respective interior surface 16b and 18b of each of the vacuum cups 16 and 18, best seen in Figs. 1a and 1b, is operable to attach firmly yet releasably to the respective edges 50a and 52a of the panels 50 and 52, during operation of the tool 10 or [[10□]] 10'.

Please replace paragraph **[0024]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] In operation, the tools 10 and [[10□]] 10' are operable to set the gap 51 between the panels 50 and 52. One of the panels 50 or 52 is fixedly attached to the respective mounting location 54 or 56, and the other of the panels 50 or 52 is loosely attached to the respective mounting location 54 or 56, defining the gap 51 between the panels 50 and 52. The tools 10 and [[10□]] 10' are placed adjacent the panels 50 and 52 with the pins 32 extending into the gap 51, best seen in Fig. 4, and the interior surfaces 16b and 18b of the vacuum cups 16 and 18 touching the exterior surfaces of the panels 50 and 52. Once the pins 32 and the vacuum cups 16 and 18 are in place, the vacuum cups 16 and 18 are activated, creating a vacuum at the apertures 16a and 18a and firmly attaching the interior surfaces 16b and 18b to the exterior surfaces of the panels 50 and 52. After the vacuum cups 16 and 18 are actuated, the actuators 20 are activated and the power pistons move the power rods 36 from the extended position to the retracted position thereby moving the second body portions 14 towards the first

body portions 12 along the axis 19. The actuators 20 continue to move the second body portions 14 toward the first body portions 12 until the respective edges 50a and 52a of each of the panels 50 and 52 is touching the exterior surfaces of the pins 32. After the panels 50 and 52 have been drawn together, the loosely attached panel 50 or 52 is fixedly attached, after which the vacuum cups 16 and 18 and the actuators 20 are deactivated, and the tools 10 and 10' are removed from the panels 50 and 52 and the gap 51. The actuators 20 remain activated until the loosely attached panel 50 or 52 is fixedly attached in order to hold the panels 50 and 52 against the pins 32 at a constant pressure. After the tools 10 and 10' are removed, the power pistons of the actuators 20 move the second body portions 14 away from the first body portions 12 to complete an activation cycle and the activation cycle is ready to be repeated.

Please replace paragraph **[0027]** with the following amended paragraph:

[0027] The control panel 60 may deactivate the vacuum cups 16 and 18 and automatically reset the actuators 20 after a predetermined time interval has elapsed. The predetermined time interval may be adjusted depending on the requirements of the tools 10 and 10'.